



Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society

May 1, 2008



The Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society meets at 7:00 p. m. on the first Thursday of every month. Our primary meeting location is the conference room on the upper floor of the Publix on Ocala Road in Tallahassee. Talk-in on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (down .600, tone 94.8), or 146.520 simplex if you require entry into the building

The Speaker for the May Program is Roger Madden AJ4GF. Roger worked for the FCC from 1971 to 1990. Don't miss this one, Roger is considered an expert of Part 97

(Please see the following introduction of Roger)

Speaker: Roger Madden

Roger, AJ4GF, a native of rural southern Illinois, has worked in communications since 1954. He joined the USMC that year and was sent to electronics school, then radar repair school and served the remainder of his 4 year tour in southern California and on the island of Oahu.

After leaving service in 1958, he worked summers and part time for a radio-sound company in Louisville, KY installing and servicing sound systems. In 1960, he received his 2nd Class Phone license (P2-18-8082) and started servicing RCA, Dumont and GE two way radio for a local company all while attending the University of Louisville. He graduated from U of L in 1963 with a BEE, was hired by Motorola, and assigned to the SP engineering group.

After a year with Motorola, he moved downstate to Bloomington and worked 4 years for GE Industrial Controls Department as an applications engineer for their solid state machinery controls product lines, and freelanced two way systems designs for a local radio shop. In 1968, he moved to Urbana, IL to work for Magnavox in its military communications operations.

He joined the FCC in 1971 in Chicago. While with the FCC, he participated in the development of the regional spectrum management office in Chicago, and in very narrow band land mobile experiments in the middle - late 70s in DC, and subsequently was appointed Deputy Chief, Policy Development Division, managing policy analysis and long term planning for Private Radio Bureau. He was then

appointed Deputy Chief, Special Services Division, Private Radio Bureau, with responsibilities for the rules of the Aviation, Maritime, Disaster, Personal and Amateur radio services from '82-'88. He retired in 1990 from the FCC as Senior Technical Advisor to the Chief, Land Mobile Rules Division.

Following early retirement, he moved to Tallahassee and joined Omnicom, then after two years went back to the Washington, DC area to help Cycomm, Inc. open its east coast office. In 1994, he started a consulting/lobbying practice with Ericsson-GE, AirCell, Securicor, Warren C. Havens and others as clients, moving back to Tallahassee in 1996.

He closed his consulting practice and joined PB Farradyne in 2000, and has been a communications consultant at Florida DOT since then.

Minutes of the April TARS Membership Meeting TARS - Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society Thursday, April 3, 2008

The TARS April Meeting was held at Publix on Ocala Rd. on Thursday, April 3, 2008.

CALL to ORDER at 7:00 p.m.

President Dan Moniz KI 4HGO welcomed the 33 members and visitors who signed in.

** The sheet listing those in attendance is made a part of these minutes.*

Dan said he was relieved that "March madness" went well and thanked area hams for participating in the many events. He highlighted the airport exercise, the fun and pancakes of the Shamrock Scurry, and said the Blue Line 100 was a nice operation, with Net Control at Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Center in Gadsden County and very good participation - - about 1 ham for every 2 riders. Police officers were pleased with TARS' participation, organizers were glad to know how riders were doing on the 100-mile rural route, and Mike KI 4KWC was thanked for guarding the pothole. Dan said TARS will not be involved in the 2008 TOSRV bike tour.

INTRODUCTION of GUESTS

Members applauded Richard Rodriguez who passed his Technician exam Tuesday at the TARS test session. Randy AG4UU introduced Roger Madden AJ4GF of Tallahassee, Colen Boutwell WA5RKR of Lake City, Todd Mechler AJ4GD of DMS, and the evening's speaker Doug Baker WB4VFT, whose company Baker Communications has worked on various TARS repeater installations.

PROGRAM

Doug WB4VFT gave a very instructive power-point on "Tower Safety for the Amateur Radio Operator." The main message was: "Tower safety starts with you" - - and some said the accompanying primate photo bore resemblance to a few local hams. Doug's imagery of corrosion on

structural elements forcefully made his point about potential dangers of working on towers. Doug listed basic concerns such as checking wind loading on a tower, anchor status, guy lines (“use them”), all hardware (“preferably stainless”), and safety climbing equipment (“OSHA belts cost about \$300, a small price for a life.”). He said OSHA has regulatory power over any tower over 60 ft and gave details on required climbing gear including: a full body harness, safety lanyard, double hooks (always hook into braces at 2 points, at angles, not horizontals), and a spreader bar, so you can back away from the tower; pants, not shorts, safety shoes, a hardhat, and various other climbing and safety gear to handle falls. There should be NO free climbing, and never climb alone. The ground crew should be ready to climb and call for help in an emergency. Doug’s business uses a detailed pre-climb form to list details on the climb and safety hazards. He warned of the dangers of paging antennas operating at high wattage ERP, and said climbers should know the signs of high RF exposure.

Randy AG4UU emphasized that the person on the tower is in charge, crew members should wear hard hats because items dropped from above can be deadly, work on the tower needs to stop when work is done below, and every crew member should readily point out any unsafe practice. TARS has equipment that members can use, but only use it safely.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Gene Floyd AI 4KK sent an email saying Stefan KI 4JTA is doing well in the infantry.
2. John Ryan of SPARC announced a Test Session at the Crawfordville Shrine Club, May 13, 7 p.m.
3. Mike KE4FGF sent an email thanking TARS members for participating in the inaugural 2008 Radio Reunion hosted by TARC, with a special thanks to Bobby KD4QKI for cooking and Dan KI 4HGO for helping set the positive tone among area clubs.

Bobby asked whether TARS could make a donation to TARC to help cover the substantial costs of the Radio Reunion food and materials. Dan said he and Mike were discussing this matter along with plans for future reunions.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT

Larry KI 4MAJ reported that \$208 was deposited following the TARS Auction, and \$500 was paid to Baker Communications for antenna repair on the Blairstone tower. The Treasurer’s Report was approved.

* A copy of the Treasurer’s Report is made a part of these Minutes.

MINUTES

Minutes from an abbreviated membership meeting at the TARS Auction in March were printed in the Newsletter and approved. Larry KI 4MAJ was thanked for taking the Minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Repeater -

Trustee Randy Pierce AG4UU reported that work continues on the receiver side of the O3 repeater. After the recent wind storm, the antenna was at an angle to the tower, and Doug Baker’s crew made repairs.

Website -

Webmaster David Heupel WE4RA said the site is up and he is acquiring hardware to migrate the data. Discussion followed on the removal of names from the Roster after 2 years of nonpayment of dues.

Testing -

Alan Terrell N4KGT reported that 7 Volunteer Examiners (VE) came to the Tuesday evening test session where the sole test-taker passed his exam. Alan thanked Mike KE4FGF for the use of his and Nirmal's office; and announced that the next TARS test session will be June 3. A session is also planned for Field Day. The TARC tests are held the third Saturday each month at 10 a.m. at the Library in Thomasville.

Education -

No report.

Newsletter -

Dan KI 4HGO said his computer must be possessed, because it is not mailing the Newsletter to everyone's email. If anyone did not receive an electronic copy, please email Dan at ki4hgo@arrl.net

BREAK

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Field Day, 2008 planning.

Dan said TARS is still looking for a Field Day leader. Several suggested Ken AC4TO or Randy AG4UU, but Ken was not present and Randy quipped "If drafted, I will not run." Lively discussion ensued on the relative merits of trying for "points", getting together and socializing, and more or fewer structured activities. The consensus was that those wishing to make contacts and learn contesting will be encouraged to do so, while having fun with the radios and fellow hams is just as important. James KG4YZM said he and Phil N4IPH plan to set up a GOTA station. Bobby KD4QKI suggested the antenna forum that was so successful in 2007 be repeated this year, as well as Randy's jump-kit demo. Bobby was declared cook by acclamation. John KI 4EWB would like to get an article in the Newspaper to increase attendance by the public. Dan said he will speak with Steve AD4E on plans and organization of the event. All agreed that it would be ideal to meet again at the J. Lee Vause Park.

2. TARS van replacement

Dan reported that the Van Replacement Committee (Randy AG4UU, John KI 4EWB, Jerry N4JL, Dan KI 4HGO, and Alan W1ABT) had formulated a plan and were sending it to Chuck Hall at HCA, where Dan is optimistic that there is hope of some assistance. Dan reviewed the history of this quest, recounting the van's age and persistent mechanical problems. Following encouragement by HCA after the events of Hurricane Katrina, in September 2006 TARS formed a committee to help evaluate TARS' needs and to research a vehicle or trailer to replace the old TARS van. The committee has presented various options to the membership and has finalized a proposal. Dan asked members to vote on proceeding with the proposal, provided that TARS secures the funding to proceed with purchasing the equipment. In addition, the Club must have on hand the monies necessary to operate

the equipment taking in consideration such expenses such as gasoline, appropriate insurance, tags, and other items, so it will not constitute a drain on TARS' limited resources.

In discussion of the motion, John KI 4EWB described the proposal for an operations trailer (~ \$100 K) and a truck to pull it (~ \$40 K). Randy AG4UU said it was dimensioned to enable using a members' truck to tow, thus toilet and sink were eliminated to save space for equipment, and gross weight is about 5000 lbs. A pneumatic antenna tower is planned at the rear, and sleeper capacity is 2. Any donation might aid in obtaining additional funds from the State. Quid pro quo would not be a problem, because none was implied. Randy recalled that TARS raised about \$35,000 to outfit the old van, and members did the work; but the committee agreed a turnkey operation built to TARS' specifications would be preferable. The motion to proceed with the proposal was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Dan announced formation of the Nominating Committee for TARS elections in June: Dave AI 4GF, Nick W4EAF, and Chuck AI 4KA. Dan welcomed any interested members to volunteer for the committee and explained that the Nominating Committee presents a slate of nominees for TARS officers in May, and voting is at the Annual Meeting in June.
2. A motion was approved to extend this session for 10 minutes to complete business.
3. David KG4YZI handed out flyers on Airfest 2008, May 17 and 18, saying the B25 will be featured and details will appear on the local EAA website. More space is available for exhibits now that FedEx moved to its new quarters. Mo KI 4PZS has planned a special events station (see QST). David asked volunteers to please email KG4YZI@arrl.net.

David also reported that the new American Red Cross (ARC) building is due to be finished by the 2009 hurricane season. Jerry and Dave met with the Project Manager to work on plans for amateur radio space - - to be located on an outside wall.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chantal Blanton, KI 4NBU

Attachment: Copy of email on Radio Reunion from Mike, KE4FGF:

Date: Thu, 3 Apr 2008 10:45:19 -0400 (EDT)
From: Mike Brown <ke4fgf@surfsouth.com>
To: "Dan Moniz (w)" <Dan.Moniz@fldfs.com>, Dan Moniz <dmoniz@comcast.net>
Subject: To read at your meeting...

Cc: Chantal Blanton <chantal@polaris.net>

To The Tallahassee ARS,

I just wanted to drop you folks a line and say thanks for participating in the inaugural 2008 Radio Reunion. I hope that it met your expectations and that you came away with a good feeling of closer ties with the other clubs represented.

I wanted to especially thank Bobby, KD4QKI, who came up pretty early to help Buddy get the BBQ chicken prepared. Also, I may have failed to thank those "other chefs" who did their kitchen magic at home in the form of side dishes to finish filling out the tables.

Thanks also to your club President, Dan, who helped set the tone of the after meal meeting with his kind comments about both me and the Thomasville ARC. I would tell you that he is a true ambassador of the hobby, but you no doubt already realize that.

I've already heard from the ARRL officials present and they were impressed with both the turnout, which was just over 100 people, and the fact that we are already working together from an ARES standpoint, thanks to your DEC, Dave, WA4WES.

One more thing...Several people have asked what the encore for this event will be. I'll remind you all that the TARC November Fish Fry will be held in Pavo on November 8th, 2008. It is also mainly a social event. A number of TARS members attended last year and it was that good turnout that led to Buddy and I coming up with the idea of the "Radio Reunion." If you'd like to mark your calendars for that in advance, know now that you are welcome to attend it as well.

I believe we are all hopeful that this event will lead to bigger and better things through the unification of all our clubs...thanks again for helping make that a reality...

73 de Mike, KE4FGF, TARC

TARS Treasurer's Report

May 2008

Beginning balance, April 1, 2008

Checking Account:	\$711.90
Savings Account:	<u>\$3189.55</u>
Total	\$3901.45

Receipts deposited in checking account: \$107.00

Receipts deposited in savings account: \$ 1.47

Receipts derived from the following:

\$ 87.00	Dues
0.00	TARS Auction
10.00	Donations
10.00	50/50
<u>1.47</u>	Bank Account Interest
\$108.47	Total

Expenditures:

\$13.81	Copies of maps for Blue Line 100
<u>61.25</u>	Corporation filing fee Dept of State
\$75.06	

Outstanding Expenses:

None

Ending Balance, April 30, 2008

Checking Account:	\$743.84
Savings Account:	<u>\$3191.02</u>
Total	\$3934.86

7 members renewed or joined since last report.

5 individuals

1 family member

1 student

Annual Dues for 2008 are due: \$15.00 for individual membership as well as family.

Membership fee for new members joining in April is \$10.00.

KI4JTA stepping out into the world

Stefan Floyd, KI 4JTA took another step down the road of life when he graduated from US Army Basic Training on 28 Mar 2008 at Ft Jackson, SC. He has since shipped out to Ft Lee, VA for 2 months of Advanced Individual Training (AIT) in Food Services, 92G. As a long-time avid cook and with a heart as big as Texas, I am sure that he will do his absolute best to make the personnel in his unit as happy as possible regardless of the circumstances they find themselves in.

The attached picture: Pvt 1st Class Stefan Floyd greeting his family for the first time on Family Day, the day before Basic Training Graduation.

Stefan KI 4JTA and his brothers Tony KI 4WET, Joshua KI 4NGO, and Chris pose for a shot of brothers reunited



The April Meeting – Program was Tower Safety
by Doug Baker



Friday Lunch at the Coral



PLANE MARSHALLING CLASS

May 3, Sat. @ 9:00 AM. Meet at Compass room. Please pass this along to all your fellow HAMS that are interested in marshaling.

Citizens of the State of Florida, DHSMV urges you to make your emergency contact information available to Law Enforcement in the event you are involved in a crash or other emergency situation. It is simple to enroll on-line by going to <http://www.flhsmv.gov/ECIHistory1.htm>. The information is stored in a secure data base available to Law Enforcement only.

For those that attend the class, Kelly Phillips, AirFest Director, is buying breakfast/lunch at Jim & Milts afterwards.

David Perryman
Data Listing Unit, MS-74
2900 Apalachee Pkwy; Tallahassee, FL 32399-0500
Phone Number (850) 617-2805; **New Fax Number - (850) 617-5218.**
Visit us at: <http://www.flhsmv.gov/data/othercomp.html>

HF Rig for sale:

**I am recently upgraded so my IC-718 HF transceiver is now for sale.
80-10M, 100W, Mobile/Fixed operation. Works great. Asking \$420.**

Contact N5HF, 386-7195



North Florida Area Hams

Attention: VARC members and South Georgia / North Florida area hams....

You are invited to the regular **Valdosta Amateur Radio Club meeting which will be held May 6th 7:00 PM** at the United Methodist Church on the Lakeland highway just off of Perimeter Road going towards Lakeland.

This month's presentation will be on **APRS, Packet Radio and Digital Ham Radio Technology**. The presentation will be by Doug Ferrell KD4MOJ who is respected in this field of technology.

The VARC recently has been using APRS to track riders during the last two bike ride events in the local area and has had great success with the technology. The bike event coordinators have been very impressed with both the club's radio voice and digital radio (APRS) support. But they really love the fact that they can see visual in real time where the last rider is during the race via the APRS presentation system.

Since supporting these events many VARC members and area hams have expressed an interest in learning more about the technology and what they need in order to become active in it.

So here is your chance for you to come and learn more about this aspect of the Ham Radio world!

Everyone is invited... all area clubs and hams! This event is just under two weeks away so make sure to mark your calendar.

Please come out and show your support to Doug in his efforts in coming to help you learn and grow.

When you see him that evening make sure to tell him... Thanks!

Here are a couple of great websites recommended by area Hams, I want to thank Carlton, ag4ut and Alan, w1abt for their contribution. If you would like to share some of you favorite sites, please e-mail the urls' to ki4hgo@arrl.net.

<http://www.ba-marc.org/index.html>

<http://www.radioresourcemag.com/>

The Radio Amateur is...

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

--The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.

Local Net News:

Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club meetings are every 3rd Thursday of each month at the Wakulla County Emergency Management Facility (Sheriff's Department) at 7:30pm. **Wednesday Night Net Meeting 2000 Hours 146.550 MHz Simplex. Repeater:145.45 tone:94.8**

Thomasville Amateur Radio Club: This net meets every **THURSDAY night at 8:00pm on 145.17MHZ Duplex**. Club meetings on the first Saturday of each month at the Plaza Restaurant at 7:30pm. **Temporarily now using 145.17MHZ Duplex - tone 141.3**

Capital District ARES Net: Every Sunday, 8:00 p. m. Eastern on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (tone 94.8)

The Big Bend Hamster Net: This net meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm Eastern on the AE4S repeater 146.655 (tone 94.8). Call 574-7965 for more detail information.

Morse Code Practice Net: This net meets Monday through Friday on 28.180 (cw) at approximately 8pm or at the conclusion of the North Florida Phone Traffic Net.

The "Winlink Conference": This net is held every Wednesday evening starting around 8PM. This is moderated by AI, W3YVQ, out of Baltimore, Md. Hams can connect direct to "Fred's happy serve" on node #129799, or tune into 443.400 UHF repeater to participate. This is a loosely directed net and pertains solely about digital communications. Regulars check in from around the USA and discuss all issues of Em Comms using digital equipment. It's mostly a technical group. A large amount of the success of the TLH DIGITAL GROUP comes from the elmering from this group. This net can be lengthy in time, sometimes lasting up to 3 hours.

Other nets are listed on the K4TLH website. All the new ham radio operators are welcomed to use the repeaters and join in on the nets.

New Membership or Renewal Form



2007 has arrived and so has TARS membership renewal. Make the form easy on yourself. If you have not changed any information from last year, merely make payment to TARS. Complete the form with your name and indicate your member type and ARRL membership status. For Family status, complete a form for each member.

Name: _____ Callsign: _____
Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ ZIP: _____-_____
Member type: Indiv. ____ Family ____ Student ____ (check one)
Home Phone () _____-_____
Work Phone: () _____-_____
Cell Phone () _____-_____
E-Mail Address: _____
ARRL member (y/n) ____ TARS Van trained (y/n) ____

Membership dues for the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society run \$15 annually per individual or family. **Students** (with valid ID) can **join for free!** You need not be a licensed amateur radio operator to join the Society. An interest in radio communications is all that is required. New members pay pro-rata based on the number of months remaining in the calendar year (\$1.25 per month). Renewing members pay \$15 dues; except after July, dues become \$7.50.

Please make your dues check payable to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society (or TARS). Bring your check with the additional information to the next monthly meeting of the Society and give it to the Treasurer, or mail your check and information to the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Society, C/O Treasurer, P. O. Box 37127, Tallahassee, FL, 32315.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), their dues are \$39 annually. TARS is an ARRL sanctioned organization. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/join.html> for more membership information.

TARS Officers

President: Dan Moniz - KI 4HGO
Vice President: Alan B. Torledsky - W1ABT
Secretary: Chantal Blanton - KI 4NBU
Treasurer: Larry Pushor - KI 4MAJ

TARS Committees:

Repeater Trustee #1: Randy Pierce AG4UU
Repeater Trustee #2: Vacant
Newsletter Editor: Dan Moniz KI 4HGO
Historian: Shawn Wilson AG4VE
Equipment Manager: Carlton Wells AG4UT
Education: Phil Ashler N4IPH
Special Events: Carliane Johnson KG4CJT
Webmaster: David A. Heupel WE4RA

Upcoming Events:

TARS Meetings: Every first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. EDT at Publix at Ocala Rd.
Friday Lunch 11:30 a. m. EDT at Golden Coral on No. Monroe St.
Capital District ARES Net: Every Sunday, 8:00 p. m. Eastern on the AE4S repeater 146.655).
North Florida ARES Net: Every morning, except Sunday on 3950 KHz at 9:00 a. m. Eastern

EDITORIAL POLICY

Submitted material received by the editor on or before the 20th of the month will appear in the following month's newsletter as space permits. Comments and/or suggestions to improve the newsletter are welcomed. The Printed Circuit is not representative of the views or opinions of the whole organization, and such views and opinions are of the individual author(s). The editor is Dan Moniz KI 4HGO. Submissions for The Printed Circuit may be emailed to: KI4HGO@arrl.net

